

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

23 OCTOBER 1981

Egypt

Mubarak Interviews -- In an interview with French television reported by MENA, President Husni Mubarak said it is too early for him to seek rapprochement with other Arab countries. However, he said he is prepared to respond to initiatives from Arab countries but they must accept Egypt's unwillingness to withdraw from the Camp David peace process. Mubarak added that the Arab states will see that Egyptian relations with Israel can help in establishing peace. MENA also transmitted the text of an interview with AL-AHRAM's chief editor in which Mubarak stated that several months will be required to establish security in Egypt and that once the situation returns to normal the emergency law will be suspended. The president reaffirmed Egypt's commitment to the Camp David peace process and went on to say that after security and stability, the government's next priority is to provide the people with housing and food.

'Ali on Autonomy Talks -- Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali was reported by Cairo radio as having told a press conference in connection with the latest autonomy talks in Tel Aviv that in view of U.S.-Israeli relations, the United States is able to explain to Israel how failure to achieve stability in the region will imperil not only the Middle East states but the rest of the world as well. 'Ali described Egyptian intentions as aiming to achieve Palestinian autonomy for a transitional period, after which the Palestinians will determine their own future. He also stressed the importance of starting a dialogue between the United States and the PLO.

VOL on Purges -- Voice of Lebanon radio said large-scale purges are in progress within various Egyptian Army commands and they will soon carry over to civilian government departments. The radio also claimed that Egyptian officers with links to the intelligence service of an "Eastern socialist state" have been arrested. Monitored Egyptian media have not been observed to carry any such reports.

PLO

In an interview with the Madrid daily EL PAIS published on 18 October, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf admitted that PLO Executive Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's recent statements in Tokyo about Saudi Crown Prince Fahd's peace plan have "caused deep unease in the Palestinian ranks." However, he asserted that 'Arafat did not give the plan overall approval but merely commended it as a basis for peacemaking. According to Khalaf, Syria and three Palestinian organizations have misunderstood 'Arafat's statements as indicating a willingness to coexist with and implicitly recognize Israel. Khalaf said the PLO will seek "nobody's opinion" when defining its attitude toward Prince Fahd's plan, adding that the PLO will not reject the plan just because some Palestinian organizations have criticized it.

Iran

Comment on Velayati Rejection -- PARS reported that President 'Ali Khamene'i attributed rejection by the Majlis of 'Ali Akbar Velayati's candidacy as prime minister to the fact that the presidential nominee was not well known among the Majlis deputies. Noting that he has five other potential nominees, one of whom he will introduce to the next Majlis session, Khamene'i praised the decision as proving that the Majlis is "the mother of all decisionmaking." In a similar vein, Tehran radio cited Khamene'i as saying the Majlis had made a courageous decision and underscoring the importance of an independent Majlis. According to AFP, Khamene'i told KEYHAN that he is still convinced that Velayati is a competent and valuable person. AFP also reported that Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani revealed that he had voted for Velayati and described the Majlis vote as "interesting," adding that it proves the independence of the Majlis from the Islamic Republican Party, which is headed by President Khamene'i.

Security Situation -- Tehran radio carried a Revolution Guards Corps statement announcing the arrest of 48 Mojahedin-e Khalq and other dissidents in Mashhad, Rasht and four other cities. The radio also reported that Borazjan revolution guards arrested 25 Mojahedin after the discovery of one of their biggest networks in Bushehr Province. Other radio reports spoke of further operations by security forces against Kurdish rebels south of Urumiyeh.

Pakistan

Karachi radio reported that two Afghan fighter aircraft violated Pakistani airspace over Waziristan Agency for about 15 minutes before returning to Afghanistan.

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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NUR AHMAD NUR ADDRESSES TRADE UNION COUNCIL

LD220824 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0503 GMT 22 Oct 81

[Text] Kabul, 21 Oct (BAKHTAR) -- The third plenum of the Central Council of the Trade Union of Afghanistan was held here today.

Addressing the plenum, Nur Ahmad Nur, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA, made a comprehensive evaluation of the work of the Central Council of Trade Unions and its provincial, district and primary organization and pointed out certain shortcomings while lauding their worthwhile contribution to the improvement of the life of the working class.

Explaining the guidelines of the PDPA for the growth and development of the activity of trade unions, Nur Ahmad Nur said: The PDPA and especially Babrak Karmal, the general secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA and president of the Revolutionary Council, hope and expect that the trade unions of Afghanistan will prove to be a platform of communication with the toiling millions of our country and will prepare themselves to serve the interests of various strata of our society.

He added that the masses must take an active part in the defense of their independence and national sovereignty and the safeguarding of their own interests.

This purpose can be achieved through the social organizations and trade unions.

Nur Ahmad Nur said that the members of trade unions are charged with a great mission; that is, of explaining the facts of April Revolution and the objective of its new evolutionary phase to the toiling people of our country and of imparting to them the political consciousness so that they consciously take an active part in the defense of revolution and its gains.

Sattar Pordeli, president of the CCTUA in his main speech at the plenum made a report on the activities of the CCTUA in the period which has elapsed since the second plenum.

The plenum approved the establishment of a vocational committee of teachers.

A resolution adopted at the plenum defined [words indistinct].

PRC REPORTEDLY TO SUPPLY MILITARY HARDWARE

BK171413 Dacca SANGBAD in Bengali 8 Oct 81 p 1

[By Matiur Rahman Chowdhury]

[Text] Bangladesh is to receive military hardware from China, but nothing is known in detail about the nature of the equipment. However, a reliable source has indicated that a large portion of the equipment will be for the Bangladesh Air Force. Several meetings were held between the governments of the two countries to decide how the military hardware could be brought to Bangladesh.

This week two high-level Chinese military delegations have visited Dacca. The first one landed at Tazgaon Airport at 1000 on Sunday [4 October] and after staying in Dacca 24 hours returned to China via Bangkok. The second delegation reached Dacca on Tuesday and after staying 20 hours left for China at 0830 yesterday morning. The visits of these delegations to Dacca were top secret, and responsible officials of the Defense Ministry have refused to say anything in this regard. A reliable source has said that a Bangladesh delegation will soon visit Beijing.

It may be recalled that when President Ziaur Rahman was alive there were two rounds of talks with China on the question of China's supply of military equipment to Bangladesh. Sources have also indicated that during Chinese Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang's visit to Dacca on 7 June discussions were held on this issue.

It is learned from unconfirmed reports that the Chinese military hardware which Bangladesh is to receive will include some from Pakistan. As Pakistan is expected to receive sophisticated military hardware from foreign countries, equipment will be sent to Bangladesh through China. When the concerned circles were contacted for comment, they refused to confirm or deny the report.

ARMY CHIEF CLARIFIES VIEWS ON MILITARY'S ROLE

BK200903 Hong Kong AFP in English 1600 GMT 19 Oct 81

[Text] Dacca, 19 Oct (AFP) -- Bangladesh Army Chief Lt. Gen. Hossain Mohammad Ershad has issued a statement on an interview with an English-language weekly published yesterday saying most of his views were misrepresented.

In a late night statement issued by Ministry of Defence yesterday Gen. Ershad said that during the 4-month state of emergency imposed after the assassination of President Ziaur Rahman last May the army had upheld the constitutional government of the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) to set the "glorious traditions of the army upholding the legally constituted government."

The WEEKLY HOLIDAY had quoted Gen. Ershad in the interview as voicing his (Ershad's) support for the late President Zia's successor government led by acting President Justice Abdus Satta (76) who is also contesting the forthcoming presidential election called to choose a successor of President Zia as BNP nominee.

In the interview Gen. Ershad had also ruled out rumours that martial law might soon be reimposed and said that unless compelled by circumstances the question did not arise.

Gen. Ershad also denied any involvement in the organisational matters of the ruling BNP as it faced the crisis of a possible rift following the assassination of President Zia on May 30 in an abortive coup. Gen. Ershad said "whatever is the verdict of the people in the coming presidential election (on November 15), it will continue to be upheld by the army in the same glorious tradition as has been already set."

In his statement Gen. Ershad asked "let no one mislead or be misled regarding the role of the Bangladesh Army and its relationship with the people beside whom the soldiers will always stand in any national crisis."

GANDHI MEETS ZHAO ZIYANG, MITTERRAND IN CANCUN

BK230734 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 23 Oct 81

[Text] Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi had a 45-minute meeting with Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang in Cancun yesterday. This is the first time they had met. The All-India radio special correspondent understands that Mrs Gandhi told Mr Zhao that the two countries have serious problems but the climate of good will can solve them all. Mr Zhao noted that there has been a gradual progress in the relations since the exchange of ambassadors. He thought it would have been better if they had progressed more rapidly. He said despite problems the two countries have common grounds. The two leaders agreed that both countries should make more sincere efforts to improve their relations.

Our correspondent adds that the two prime ministers began their meeting by recalling statements by Mrs Gandhi herself and Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping that the efforts should be made to restore India-China relations to the level of the 50's. They noted that both are not only Asian countries but are neighbors and had over 1,000 years of friendly exchanges. The Chinese prime minister specifically referred to the fact that India and China have similar and close positions on west Asia, South Africa and on issues relating to the international economic order.

Our correspondent reports that the two leaders had comprehensive exchange of views on matters coming up at the North-South summit. They agreed that the struggle of developing countries for a just economic order is a continuation of their struggle for political independence. They shared the view that although the struggle may be arduous, the goal would be attained. The Chinese prime minister repeated the invitation extended to Mrs Gandhi to visit China and said he was sure she would receive a warm welcome. Mrs Gandhi said she was delighted and added that she has long been an admirer of China's great culture. Mrs Gandhi was assisted at the talks by G. Parthasarthy, her principal secretary P.C. Alexander, and joint secretary in her office K.K.S. Rana. The Chinese side included Huang Hua, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister and one of the vice foreign ministers.

French President Mitterrand called on Mrs Gandhi at Cancun. He referred to Mrs Gandhi's forthcoming visit to France and said he was looking forward to it. The French president said apart from strengthening bilateral relations his government also wants to exchange ideas with India on world developments.

DELHI: PRC WANTS TO RESUME INDIA-TIBET TRADE

BK221617 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 22 Oct 81

[Text] China is said to be keen to resume Indo-Tibetan border trade. According to the UNITED NEWS OF INDIA, Chinese officials who came down to the Tibetan border town of (Taklakot) during the visits of Indian pilgrims to Mount Kailash and Manasaravar were confident that Beijing would be making a move in this direction.

Traditional border trade has remained suspended since the India-China border clashes.

According to the report, Chinese and Tibetan officials showed keen interest in a number of Indian articles, particularly Hindustan machine tool watches, kerosene stoves that the pilgrims were carrying besides cigarettes and clothes.

India used to import Tibetan wool from across the border before trade was suspended.

2 AFGHAN AIRCRAFT VIOLATE PAKISTANI AIRSPACE

BK221526 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1510 GMT 22 Oct 81

[Text] Two Afghan fighter aircraft violated Pakistan's airspace at 0910 this morning [0410 GMT]. These aircraft, flying at about 30,000 feet, intruded into Pakistan's northern Waziristan Agency from Afghanistan's Matun cantonment. After flying over the area for about 15 minutes, they returned to Afghanistan.

GENERAL: SOVIETS AFTER PAKISTANI PORTS

GF221035 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 22 Oct 81 p 7

[Excerpt] Wana (Pakistan) -- Lieut Gen Fazle Haq, whose troops guard Pakistan's main border with Afghanistan, told Western reporters on Tuesday the long-term aim of the Soviet Union was to drive through Pakistan to a warm water port.

He said that Soviet planes regularly flew reconnaissance missions to check on Pakistan's border defences. His troops often caught saboteurs who were trained in Afghanistan for subversion in Pakistan, he added.

In a rare interview at the military camp 30 miles from the Afghan border, Gen Haq, governor of the North-West Frontier Province, also gave his appraisal of the Afghan conflict, saying that while 2,000 Soviet troops had died in the past two years, the losses were not enough to force Moscow to withdraw its forces.

He said a Soviet drive through Pakistan could come at any point along the Afghanistan border. "They will make a strategic thrust to get access to a warm water port in our Baluchistan Province," he said.

Gen Haq said Pakistani troops could hold off a Soviet force three or four times bigger because the rugged border terrain was suited to defence. He did not expect an attack on Pakistan in the near future because Soviet troops were bogged down in Afghanistan fighting Afghan mujahidin who could harass their lines of communications.

Gen Haq said among arms seized from saboteurs infiltrating into Pakistan in the last few weeks was a SAM-7, a small, portable antiaircraft missile. "We're nabbing quite a few of these fellows," Gen Haq said. "They are waging psychological warfare to try to get people scared," he added.

Gen Haq said that earlier this month a military operation was conducted against a camp of saboteurs near the Afghan border about 50 miles north-west of Peshawar. He said one soldier was killed in the battle with about 40 miscreants and a large quantity of arms and literature was seized. Some miscreants escaped and the others were under arrest.

PROMINENT POLITICIAN KHAN DIES 22 OCT

BK230655 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 23 Oct 81

[Text] We regretfully announce that prominent politician Khan Abdul Qayum Khan died in Islamabad last night of a massive heart attack. He was 80 years old.

BRIEFS

COAL, GRANITE DEPOSITS -- Mr Ashraf Tabani, Pakistan's provincial minister for finance, excise and taxation, told a press conference that large deposits of high quality coal and granite have been found near Thatta, in Sind Province, and are estimated at more than 500 million tons. [Karachi NAQA-E-WAQT in Urdu 14 Oct 81 p 10 GF]

KHAMENE'I ON MAJLIS REJECTION OF VELAYATI

LD221746 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Oct 81

[Text] President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i spoke to correspondents today following the Majlis vote against the prime ministership of Velayati. The president referred to the measure taken by the Majlis as courageous, saying: This was one of the most courageous measures taken by the Majlis. Stressing the point, the president noted: The independence of the Majlis is precious to us, for we believe that in a revolutionary society like ours the Majlis is the source of all decisions.

Commenting on other candidates for the post of prime minister, Mr Khamene'i said: I have five more candidates for the post of prime minister. God willing, I shall nominate one of them at the next meeting of the Majlis.

Concluding his remarks, the president alluded to the Iraqi-imposed war on Iran, saying: The (?issue at stake) is that we are reaching a stage in this war wherein we must devote our attention to the postwar issues. The political situation, the fighting morale, manpower and the economic situation [word indistinct] and despite the military equipment regularly made available [to Iraq] by the various powers, that country is weakened. We can even say that Saddam is on the verge of collapse. We are moving toward perfection in this war and shall continue to do so.

FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT ON NORTH/SOUTH SUMMIT

LD221338 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Oct 81

[Foreign Ministry statement on North-South conference]

[Text] In His exalted name. The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran considers it its duty, now that the North-South conference has opened in Mexico with the participation of Western industrialized countries and a number of countries that are kept backward, to bring the following points to the attention of the deprived and oppressed nations of the world:

1. The deprived and oppressed people of the world know full well that the industrialized countries and the world devourers of the East and the West, headed by the criminal United States, have attained this level of technology and wealth by colonizing, exploiting and plundering the life and human resources of the Third World countries. They have constantly tried, with (?false promises) and under pretence of economic and technical assistance to Third World countries, to subject the deprived and oppressed nations of the world to more of their monopolization.
2. This year the second North-South conference is being held at a time when the rotten and oppressive system of international capitalism is faced with severe financial crises within its borders, inflation on top of recession, high unemployment and economic chaos, and has been the target of the severest blows. This is at a time when, with the increasing alertness and consciousness of the oppressed people of the world and their holy and relentless struggles, the vampire imperialism is losing one after another its [word indistinct] consumer markets and the sources of its cheap raw materials in the Third World countries.

It is in these conditions that the heads of the Western industrialized countries are gathering at the North-South conference, which is the manifestation of the unholy and cursed alliance of Western world devourers, headed by the great Satan, the United States, in order to find new ways for their rampage and for the implementation of the expansionist aggressive policies of the likes of Reagan. Through various means, including this conference, they intend to steer developing countries toward capitalist growth dependent on themselves, and thus create [word indistinct] consumer markets in the said countries.

At this conference they have no motive other than to strengthen and establish their rule, by way of interference and control over decisions made regarding energy and the price of oil and raw materials belonging to the chained and deprived nations of the world.

3. The chained and deprived nations of the world know full well that so long as the relationship between governments is that of ruler and subject, and so long as the hegemonistic world devourers exist, such conferences are nothing but a ploy and trick for more plundering of the resources of the Third World countries. Today the further blossoming of the liberation movements of the oppressed nations all over the world, especially with the revival of beloved Islam as an advanced liberating ideology among the oppressed people of the world, has frightened the great Satan and his stablemates, so that they vainly thought they could find a way to save themselves from the brink of doom and deadend by way of such conferences. Little do they know that their downfall and demise has been promised by God, and that it will happen before long.

The Islamic Republic of Iran strongly believes that only in the framework of an international economy, based on the respective interests of the various countries and the oppressed and deprived nations of the world will the present crises and injustices end; and so long as the plundering superpowers and world devourers of the East and West rule the fate of the world people, they will see no peace and tranquility and will not achieve their just rights. (?All this will not be possible) except with the total destruction of world oppression, headed by the great Satan, the aggressive United States, and the complete establishment of the monotheistic, holy and Islamic system throughout the world, [words indistinct] started with the struggles of the world Muslims. "Is not morning nigh?" [Koranic verse]

[Signed] The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran

FOREIGN MINISTRY RELEASES SECRET AMNESTY DOCUMENT

LD221916 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Oct 81

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran has disclosed a highly confidential document dealing with a meeting between the ambassador of the Imperial Government of Iran in London and two members of Amnesty International, Martin Ennals and David Simpson. The meeting took place at the Iranian Embassy.

The full text of the document, containing talks between Parviz Raji, ambassador of the deceased shah, and Martin Ennals, secretary general [as heard] of Amnesty International, and David Simpson, director of the British section of Amnesty International, is as follows:

Top secret, confidential. Date: 2 March 1977

No 29134. From: London; to: Headquarters.

His Excellency (Abbas 'Ali Khalatbari, the foreign minister. Yesterday, Mr Martin Ennals, the secretary general of Amnesty International, and Mr David Simpson, the director of the British section of the organization, were my guests for lunch at the embassy. Following are the main points of the talks held with the gentlemen:

1. I told Mr Ennals: Yesterday I received your lawyer's report to the International Organizations Committee of the U.S. Congress; I had hoped that following our recent contacts the tone of the report would be more favorable. Meanwhile, I handed Mr Ennals a copy of the Imperial Government's statement, which he had not seen till then. Having read it, he said cheerfully: I accept its contents. However, it would not be correct to say that the organization has not changed its tone toward Iran; rather, as reflected in the annual report, the organization's tone in addressing Iran has effectively changed. [sentence as heard]

Substantiating his view with regard to the organization's change of attitude toward Iran, he cited page 10 of the organization's report to the U.S. Congress.

2. Mr Ennals said: The points raised by the confederation of Iranian students are so meaningless and senseless, which show how well SAVAK has infiltrated the confederation. Should SAVAK cease to support them, there is no doubt that the confederation would soon collapse.

3. I told Mr Ennals: I have two personal questions. First, should it be reasonably proved to you that situations have fundamentally changed in Iran with regard to human rights and that they have improved, then do you think that if you praise these changes which have taken place in Iran it would be tantamount to political suicide? Do you think this would harm your international prestige? He said: No, it would not discredit us at all. As long as no criticism is made, this would show our change of view. I said: What has to be done in order to have these favorable points raised? He replied: As a friend and on a personal basis I say: The most effective step taken to improve your image during this period has been to invite that journalist from Belgium who visited the prisons. He added: Obviously, if it is only left to Lord Chalfont to sing your praises it would bear less significance than if it is stated by an impartial party. I said: Do you have a candidate? He replied: One ought to think about this. He continued: The Egyptians are now practising an open-door policy toward journalists; they have achieved some results.

I said: Iran's problem differs from Egypt's. We have to note geopolitical considerations in Iran. He replied: Egypt is a country engaged in a war. I said: Perhaps Israel is more suitable than the USSR. Mr Ennals added: Another measure which could disarm your critics would be to publish and distribute the International Red Cross report.

4. I asked Mr Ennals: Do you still believe that Iran is one of the countries being criticized with regard to human rights? He replied: Right now, certain countries, like South Africa, are placed above others. I asked: What about Israel? He replied: Reputable Jewish organizations, like the World Jewish Congress, have always had logical and sincere relations with our organization.

5. Mr Ennals inquired about events in Tabriz and Qom. Referring to his imperial majesty's remarks, I explained that these unrests are the result of the unholy alliance between the red and black reactionaries. I then explained in detail the roles played by these elements.

Concluding his special report from London, Ambassador Parviz Raji writes: This meeting was held in line with the policy of maintaining contact and leaving the door open for talks with Amnesty International, which has been commended by his imperial majesty. Understanding is that the organization's attitude and approach toward Iran have relatively improved. The matter is reported for your information.

2/224. Dated: 2 March 1977. [Signed] P. Raji

DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH CUBAN ENVOY

LD222236 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 22 Oct 81

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the Cuban ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran today met and conferred with Mr Ahmad 'Azizi, the deputy foreign affairs minister.

At this meeting the Cuban ambassador expressed his government's views on the latest conspiracies of American imperialism for expanding its domination in North Africa under the pretext of Libyan threats to Egypt and Sudan. In reply, the deputy foreign affairs minister condemned America's hegemonic efforts, carried out with the help of Egypt and Sudan. He said: American imperialism always takes advantage of such pretexts in order to preserve and expand its influence over the oppressed nations, and mercenary governments also collaborate with it.

Our country's deputy foreign affairs minister, referring to unfounded accusations claiming Iranian aircraft bombed Kuwait, said: This accusation is made merely to prepare the ground for criminal America to justify its military presence in the region. It can then equip its mercenary governments such as Saudi Arabia. We also see that the hireling Governments of Egypt and Sudan, which are facing popular uprisings of their own people, are talking about Libya's threat against themselves, and we see that America, under the pretext of stabilizing its shaky position, has attempted to dispatch AWACS aircraft to guard Egypt's airspace.

Concluding, Mr 'Azizi said: We are sure that if the genuine opposition to America's hegemony does not remain silent and exposes the behind the scene goals of such conspiracies, this superpower and its lackeys will never have the opportunity to achieve their objectives.

MAJLIS DELEGATION LEAVES FOR CONFERENCE IN PRC

GF230806 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 23 Oct 81

[Text] A Majlis delegation left for China yesterday to participate in the Asian parliamentary conference which is being attended by delegations from 17 Asian countries.

The Iranian delegation includes five Majlis deputies.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS TOUR KHUZESTAN WAR ZONE

GF221641 Tehran PARS in English 1625 GMT 22 Oct 81

[Text] Tehran, 22 Oct (PARS NEWS AGENCY) -- A group of foreign reporters -- including reporters of Norway, France and the American CBS TV network -- arrived in Ahvaz, Khuzestan, today to view the crimes of war in Khuzestan. The group visited various parts of residential areas destroyed as a result of Iraqi ground-to-ground missiles and long-range artillery. They also inspected 'Abolfazl mosque, which was destroyed by a bomb planted by the monafeqin [hypocrites] (MKO).

While the foreign correspondents were visiting the mosque, a group of people gathered outside and chanted slogans against the U.S., the Soviet Union and monafeqin condemning the bombing of mosques and religious places. One of the members of the mobilization organization delivered a speech to the foreign reporters condemning U.S. crimes and said that Reagan, Saddam, Rajavi and Bani-Sadr must know that the Islamic Republic of Iran had found its path and these explosions would never affect the will of the Muslim Iranian nation.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 675

LD221806 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Oct 81

[Communique 675 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, relying on their firm belief and with firm determination and iron will, continue their ceaseless battle against the aggressive forces of Saddam.

In the past 24 hours, the enemy's active positions and targets came under artillery and mortar fire and in all 10 tanks and vehicles, 6 ammunition dumps, one 106-mm rifle, 7 guns and 12 trenches of the enemy were destroyed. The enemy's casualties in this period were more than 50 dead or wounded.

In the western operational areas, there were exchanges of fire between our forces and the enemy forces. In the Mehran area, the Iraqi personnel's (?attacks) and positions came under the fire of our combatants at various hours, as a result of which enemy fire was silenced, several trenches of Saddam's troops were destroyed, and several of them were killed or wounded.

In the Hajj 'Emran area, our combative personnel identified a battery emplacement of the field artillery of Saddam's army and, opening artillery fire, destroyed four enemy fieldguns.

In the same region, one 106-mm rifle and one vehicle of the enemy were destroyed and a number of Iraqi military personnel were killed.

On one of the western fronts, one of the aggressors' bases was attacked by our forces. In the course of these successful operations, one antiaircraft gun, two ammunition dumps and eight squad trenches of the enemy were destroyed and their personnel were killed or wounded.

In the western Dezful area, as a result of the artillery fire of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran on enemy positions, one tank, three vehicles, two guns, three ammunition dumps and four trenches of the aggressive personnel were set on fire and destroyed and more than 50 of Saddam's aggressive forces were killed or wounded. In these operations, two tanks and one personnel carrier of the enemy were put out of action.

In the Ahvaz area, the mortar fire of our forces destroyed several trenches and one 75-mm weapon emplacement of the aggressors, and on the Susangerd front one vehicle and one ammunition dump of the enemy were also destroyed.

The heavy-weapon fire of the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran set on fire one assembly point and one vehicle in the occupied zone in Khorramshahr and a number of aggressors were killed and some others wounded.

In the past 24 hours the enemy's air raids were foiled by the fire of our air defense units and the intruding aircraft fled.

In the course of a battle carried on 20 October on our country's western and southern fronts 22 combatants of the ground forces and one of the heroic personnel of the Navy of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran attained the honor of meeting God. May their souls rest in peace and may their memories be held dear.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

SUPREME COURT DEFINES CONDITIONS FOR PARDON

GF230839 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 23 Oct 81

[Text] According to the instructions of the leader of the Islamic revolution, Imam Khomeyni, the Supreme Court has issued a directive to the revolution and army courts and the Ministry of Justice on the pardoning of convicted persons in eight cases. These cases include those who are convicted for killings after indemnities are paid, agreement of the victim's next of kin is obtained and the lapse of a period of time. The pardon also includes the [word indistinct] the former regime and the aged on conditions defined by the directive.

GUARDS CORPS REPORTS SUCCESSES IN KORDESTAN

LD221844 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Oct 81

[Text] According to a PARS report, the self-sacrificing brother guards have ended 3 days of mopping-up operations in the (Mahal-e Dodom) District, south of the city of Rezaiyeh, and have also disarmed elements of the defunct [Kurdish] Democratic Party.

During these mopping-up operations, the forces of Islam seized G-3, Kalashnikov, Brno and M-1 weapons, a (?parachute) and Colts, totalling more than 100 weapons.

According to the report, the mobilization unit of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps took up positions in the 31 villages of the region. The Muslim people of the region welcomed the mopping-up operations by the Guards Corps.

REVOLUTION GUARDS ARREST 48 'HYPOCRITES,' OTHERS

LD221824 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Oct 81

[Statement issued by the Public Relations Office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps -- date not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Thanks to cooperation from the 36-million-strong intelligence organization and thanks to extensive efforts by our brothers from the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in the cities of Gorgan, Langerud, Rasht, Bandar-e Anzali, Qa'emshahr and Mashhad, 48 of the sympathizers and active members of the hypocrites and god-fighting [mohareb] minigroups have been arrested for the crimes of taking part in safe houses, demonstrating for the overthrow of the Islamic Republic, terror, fomenting riots among the people in general, and attacking law enforcement centers, officials and revolution guards.

In Rasht, 30 of those deceived by the minigroups who had been arrested and were kept in the corps' detention center in that city for the crime of participating in counterrevolutionary plans were released after giving an undertaking and expressing contrition for their past deeds.

Six deceived by the pro-U.S. minigroups and hypocrites of Peykar reported in person to the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in Kordestan, Tonakabon and Fuman.

REVOLUTION COMMITTEE ON RECENT OPERATIONS

LD221412 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Oct 81

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that the Public Relations Office of the Central Islamic Revolution Committee has issued a statement announcing some of the operations carried out by our brother guards from the Islamic revolution committees in their struggle against the U.S.-backed hypocrites organization as follows:

In His exalted name. Following the discovery of one of the biggest terrorist networks of the hypocrites organization in Bushehr Province, 25 members of this U.S.-backed network by the guards of Boruzjan's Islamic Revolution Committee were arrested. The following weapons were captured from these arrested: 10 Colt sidearms, 1 handgrenade, 1 antipersonnel mine, 20 kg of explosives, 1,200 rounds of various types of ammunition, 9 T-junction explosive devices, 1 transmitter and 1 typewriter.

The operations carried out to date by that terrorist group are as follows: An attack on Boruzjan's reconstruction crusade headquarters, an attack on Boruzjan's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps headquarters, an attack on the Islamic Republican Party in Bushehr Province, an abortive assassination attempt on the director general of education and training in Bushehr and two attacks on Boruzjan's students' and teachers' union.

One of the hypocrites organization's terrorists was arrested while lobbing a grenade at the brother guards of our committee at 1800 yesterday in Tehran. The following items were captured from him: one Colt sidearm, one grenade and several organization documents.

DEPUTIES INTERVIEWED ON RETURN FROM USSR

ID211926 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1300 GMT 21 Oct 81

[Studio discussion between two Tehran radio announcers about Afghanistan after the trip by an Iranian delegation to the Soviet Union, followed by a recorded interview with delegation leader Jalaaladdin Farsi and delegation member Dr Soroush, both Majlis deputies; date of interview, conducted by unidentified correspondent, not given]

[Text] [Male announcer] Now, Madam, what is the topic of our discussion today with regard to those who have returned from the Soviet Union?

[Female announcer] I think we had better talk about the issue of Afghanistan.

[Male announcer] It is very interesting. The poor Soviet Union.

[Female announcer] Why poor?

[Male announcer] Because despite all of its boasts and clamor with this invasion, the Soviet Union has had its horns completely broken and has lost all of its reputation.

[Female announcer] How is that? Could you explain it a little more?

[Male announcer] Yes, for ages the Russians had chanted slogans in support of the oppressed masses of the world. Although some elements of their hypocrisy and insincerity could have been detected as the result of the military occupation of Prague, the Czechoslovak capital, Poland, and other countries in East Europe, as time passed some of the oppressed and deprived people of the world gradually came to believe that the Russians are their supporters. However, as a result of this aggression all the people of the world discovered that, no, it is not so and that the East and the West are both cut from the same material and that the remarks of the Iranian leader are correct when he says that East and West are the same. Although these two superpowers chant slogans against each other, there are no differences between them in plundering the deprived nations of the world.

The other important matter is that the Soviet Union is a superpower and the people of the world for many years heard stories about its military power and its Red Army. However, this aggression showed that Soviet Union's Red Army is also, like the U.S. Armed Forces, nothing but a paper tiger; the same Red Army with all its equipment has had to face defeat at the hands of the deprived people of Afghanistan, who at the most possess simple rifles, and that it is not capable of achieving anything.

[Female announcer] Well, if what you say is true then, as the saying does, Russia's tail has been caught in Afghanistan and they do not know what to do. It is ludicrous that in the recording which we are going to broadcast right now, the Soviet officials are reported as saying that these few million Afghan refugees, whose condition is clear to all of us, are all feudals. If the Russians were to withdraw from Afghanistan, their puppet Marxist regime in Afghanistan would be toppled; if they want to continue their occupation their reputation will further decline. The same fate which the Americans faced in Vietnam is awaiting them.

[Male announcer] This is their own big mistake and, as they say, it is a self-inflicted wound. If you remember, the imam said that the night before the occupation of Afghanistan, the Soviet ambassador went to him, saying: Sir, we wish to send troops to Afghanistan and please don't say anything about it.

At that time the imam said: You can occupy Afghanistan, but you should know that you will not be able to rule it; the Afghan nation will eventually expel you from its country.

[Female announcer] I believe it is still not too late for the Russians. An old proverb says: Whenever you stop a loss, it is a gain. The occupying Russians should have learned some lessons by now: That they should pack their bags and go home before the situation becomes more critical.

[Male announcer] Now we had better turn to the words of Mr Jalaaladdin Farsi:

[Begin recording] [Farsi] We were not able to make any contacts with the people, but I discussed the issue -- together with Dr Soroush and Dr Shari'atmadari, members of the delegation whose aim was to describe the Islamic Republic -- in our meetings with the president [as heard] of Uzbekistan.

In our meeting with the president of Uzbekistan, who was also accompanied by a number of people, I raised the issue of Afghanistan and the military occupation of Afghanistan. He is one of the (?new) Soviet leaders. He is a deputy to Brezhnev. I emphasized that we wanted to raise this issue first with him because we wanted our talks to be more fruitful. If you consider and act upon our proposals and recommendations, relations between our people and the nations of the Soviet Union will be stronger, I said. I said that I wanted to raise the issue of Afghanistan for a number of reasons: First, because the Uzbek republic has a 1,200 km joint border with Afghanistan.

Second, the Red Army units which invaded Afghanistan passed through this republic. Third, the Iranian nation regards the issue of Afghanistan as its own issue. Fourth, for a personal reason, because my parents emigrated from Herat, which is near the present Iranian border, to Mashhad about 80 years ago. At the moment, I have 18 cousins in Herat. Herat had been Iran's capital and Afghanistan had been part of Iran for thousands of years and the people of Afghanistan have old, mutual relations with us.

With your military intervention in Afghanistan, you forced 2.4 million of our compatriots and coreligionists to come to Iran from Afghanistan, I said. Also, about 500,000 people have fled to Pakistan. They are the hard-working masses, and they are honorable and patriotic people who have been forced to flee as a result of your military intervention, I added. Tens of thousands of Afghan youths have come to our country and to Pakistan and they say that they have fled their country so that they would not be forced to shoot at their own compatriots by those who wanted them for military service and wanted to force them to confront their own sisters and brothers.

The government which exists in Afghanistan is officially at war with the people, yet you say that you have entered Afghanistan in accordance with the UN Charter, at the request of your Afghan friends, I told him. But U.S. imperialism, British imperialism, and French imperialism also use the same excuse in their military interventions, which are military aggressions. In Vietnam, America used to say that its friendly government in South Vietnam had asked them to come to its help as it was faced with the military intervention of a foreign country. Although U.S. imperialism had military forces on our soil, although it had military advisers, when the ruling minority which was led by the traitorous shah was confronted by the multi-million strong masses of our country, U.S. imperialism did not support that minority with the armed forces and military personnel which it had. It even withdrew its military personnel from our soil and that ruling minority and the traitorous shah were left alone, confronted by our nation. Yet you have gone to the assistance of this ruling minority.

When my remarks came to this point, the president of Uzbekistan, who is a very gentle (akhlaqi) person, was very perturbed. I felt that he was in full agreement with my remarks. At the same time I noticed that Mr Dzasokhov, deputy chairman of the Soviet committee for solidarity with Asian and African countries, who, from my discussions with him, was quite plainly an important figure and trained in international communism, wrote something and placed it in front of the president of Uzbekistan.

In view of the reminders of this comrade, he said: Our Afghan friends asked us to go to their assistance. Our military units are limited, and in accordance with the UN Charter we went to the assistance of a government which was faced with military intervention. Every revolution engages in some reforms and has some opponents. As they distributed the land the feudals [words indistinct] fled. Those who have gone to your country are the feudal lords. I said: If the 2.4 million Afghans who have fled to our country are feudals, then what is the number of their peasants? He answered: They are the deceived ones. I said: If they are the deceived ones, how is it that the ruling minority has not been able to deceive these millions of people?

A few days before going to the Soviet Union, 33 physicians from Kabul University's medical faculty, who had the status of professors, came to me and said: We have fled because conditions there are unbearable. I asked them to go to the places where hundreds of thousands of Afghan refugees live and to treat their compatriots. They said that the Government of the Islamic Republic has not yet allowed us to perform surgery. It neither gives us any work permits, nor provides for our livelihood. We have spent all that we possessed. I got in touch with the Ministry of Health and said that now that the Afghan refugees have placed such a heavy burden upon our shoulders, from the health, hygiene, food and other points of view, at least these university professors from Afghanistan can shoulder some of the burden. The government accepted the proposal and they started to work. These people are university professors, graduates, students. Thousands of them have fled and are now in our country. No one can deceive us. The UN Charter envisages two conditions: first, a government which has come into being as a result of free elections and which is chosen by the people can ask its friends abroad for help, if, second, such a government should be faced with the armed intervention by another government -- not when the masses rebel against it, against a minority which has seized power as a result of a military coup. The United Nations gives that right to such a government.

Neither we, nor the Pakistanis have interfered in any way in Afghanistan. It is only the masses, who are confronting a minority which has staged a coup d'etat. You have some friends in the Islamic world and you have good relations with the Syrian Government, I said. You have good relations with the Libyan Government and you had friendly relations with the government of 'Abd an-Nasir. Why have none of these governments ever asked you for help? The reason is that the masses in these countries have not risen against these governments. The president said: When, in 1956, 'Abd an-Nasir was attacked, we went to his assistance.

I replied: First, three great powers, two great world imperialists, landed their troops in Egypt and that country was attacked from every direction, by land, by sea and by air. Still 'Abd an-Nasir did not ask for your help. What similarity is there between that issue and the issue of Afghanistan? Which imperialism has engaged in intervention in Afghanistan? Which army has attacked Afghanistan? There is a great difference between Afghanistan and Egypt yet, faced with those [word indistinct], 'Abd an-Nasir did not ask for your help. You threatened Britain with nuclear power, but you did not send any assistance.

This was our discussion with him about the issue of Afghanistan, hoping that he would discuss this matter with the higher officials of the Soviet Union. He said: The Government of Afghanistan has repeatedly asked the Pakistani Government and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to hold discussions about the issue of Afghanistan. It is better for you to have good, neighborly relations with Afghanistan. I said: We have always had good, neighborly relations with Afghanistan. I said: We have always had good, neighborly relations with the people of Afghanistan who are our own people. We will establish good, neighborly relations with a government which is chosen by the masses of its own people, not one which is imposed upon them by occupying armed forces and a foreign military coup d'etat.

I reminded them that the people of Afghanistan have resorted to arms in order to topple this puppet Government of Afghanistan which is dependent upon aliens. No one can take this weapon from their hands.

They will never lay down their arms unless we give every member of that revolutionary nation the right to vote, so that they may vote in free elections and choose their own government, in the same way that in 15 months our multimillion-strong masses have gone to the polling stations 5 times. When we heard this remark that they are feudal lords I told the president of Uzbekistan you and other people who want to know the truth should come to Iran and talk to these thousands of Afghan people in their camps, so that you will find out that they are neither deceived, nor feudal lords.

[Interviewer] Mr Farsi, I beg your pardon. You used the weapon of logic in countering them, while they used the weapon in order to get rid of the logic. As you might have noticed the aim behind the occupation of Afghanistan was not merely to save the coup or the regime. We saw that the Afghan Muslim movement had reached the stage of kindling an uprising among the Afghans resulting in the elimination of Afghanistan's Marxist regime. This would have been an unprecedented event in the history of Marxism which could not have been tolerated by the Soviet rulers. This constitutes a logic within the framework of Soviet thinking; herefore using the actual weapon to get rid of the true logic, and then you based your argument on the logic I do not think what you argued could have been accepted by the Soviet officials.

[Farsi] You may be right. But I think one ought to discuss the logic even in the circumstances where the weapon is countering the logic and it is only through such discussions of the issue that we encourage the Italian Communist Party and its secretary general to assert exactly what I had put forward. In the course of the 26th CPSU Congress, other communist parties participated and the Italian Communist Party did not accept the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, at least in the manner in which it was carried out, and supported the idea that the Red Army should withdraw from Afghanistan.

Incidentally, I discussed the issue in the same manner with the leaders of the PLO, Mr 'Arafat Abu Jihad, Abu Saleh and other leaders, including President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria. In fact, when we met for the first time with President al-Asad, the first question he asked us was about this and he said he had heard that we had discussed Islam in the Soviet Union. I replied: We not only discussed Islam but also the question of Afghanistan, Palestine, the Soviet Union's indifference with regard to the fascist, aggressor regime of Iraq and the Iraqi regime's aggression against our oppressed nation. I informed President al-Asad of our encounter with the Soviet officials in detail.

[Interviewer] In view of the fact that you said you discussed Islam in the Soviet Union, and bearing in mind that one of the aims behind your trip to the Soviet Union was to introduce the Islamic revolution to the Soviet people, and in view of the fact that the first real encounter between Islam and communism was Afghanistan, it is important that at least the Soviet nation and the nations of the Soviet republics should learn about our revolution in a correct manner. Did the delegation deliver any speech on the subject in order to fulfill its task in an effective way? Dr Soroush?

[Soroush] As far as our schedules permitted, these speeches were delivered. Of course, I have to reiterate that in our limited time what we could see was that the Soviet people have been depoliticized; that means they have been made nonpolitical. Contrary to what is claimed in theory, the Soviet people and masses are absent from the political scene. They are merely spectators with regard to the policies implemented by their government; they merely receive the news through the existing limited media controlled by the government. Therefore, as far as information is concerned they only have access to certain information with a very certain analysis.

Therefore, despite the speeches that we delivered in the Soviet Union, you should not believe that these speeches were distributed and communicated by the press agencies to the Soviet public in their entirety. Only parts of these speeches or the discussion were selected which were a reflection of hope and the desire for friendly, neighborly relations between Iran and the Soviet Union.

[Interviewer] Unfortunately, we are coming toward the end of our time. The only other question I have for Mr Farsi is this: In connection with the speech he delivered on Arb'ain Day [7 December 1980], in which he said that Iran could purchase arms from wherever it wished, I want to know if, in the course of the delegation's trip to the Soviet Union, the delegation had any mission to purchase arms from the Soviet Union?

[Farsi] We did not have such mission. What I said [words indistinct] they branded me as a Soviet element. The accusation was made by an organ of the revolution against Islam which interpreted my assertion as a suggestion for purchasing arms from the Soviet Union to fight U.S. imperialism and the Iraqi Armed Forces, which are being commanded by U.S. imperialism. The paper expressed the view by saying that the path I had taken would take me to Turkistan [a Persian proverb meaning to nowhere]. The paper putting this argument forward is linked more or less with Washington. We are following the line of our Prophet Mohammad, peace be upon him, using every means to fight the enemies of Islam. Today we are fighting the Iraqis [who are] using U.S.-made arms and Soviet-made 130-mm cannons.

What I would like to add and to point out is the fact that the Soviet Union is neither willing to sell arms to Iran, nor to the Iraqis. By the way, the U.S. elements' treacherous stand in this connection is being completely revealed. I think that the Soviet Union is willing to sell arms here, but cannot do so because of its agreement with U.S. imperialism, even if we insist and even if we cross-refer our request to the agreements that the Soviet Union concluded with the shah's regime. They are not even honoring those agreements and are not giving us the spare parts, which is contrary to the agreements. Therefore, the elements of U.S. imperialism are relieved. [end recording]

TEHRAN: MUJAHIDIN, SOVIETS CLASH IN AFGHANISTAN

GF221811 Tehran International Service in Urdu 1415 GMT 22 Oct 81

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan indicate that Afghan mujahidin have occupied Qandahar, in southwest Afghanistan. Reports from Herat city, in western Afghanistan, indicate that in early October, mujahidin set fire to a car in which Afghan Prime Minister Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand was travelling. Keshtmand was injured and left the area quickly.

During a skirmish between mujahidin and a combined force of Soviet and Afghan Government troops in central Herat last week, (?12) Soviet and Afghan Government troops were killed and several others were wounded. Fifteen Afghan Government troops defected to the mujahidin.

According to the same report, Lowgar Province, near Kabul, has been the scene of bitter fighting between mujahidin and government and Soviet troops during the past few days.

SRI LANKAQUEEN ELIZABETH ARRIVES: EMERGENCY EXTENDED

BK211653 Hong Kong AFP in English 1635 GMT 21 Oct 81

[Excerpts] Colombo, 21 Oct (AFP) -- Britain's Queen Elizabeth and the duke of Edinburgh were accorded a warm and colourful welcome when they arrived here today on a 5-day state visit to Sri Lanka.

A Royal Australian Air Force plane bringing the queen and Prince Philip here after their visits to Australia and New Zealand landed at the gaily decorated Katunayake International Airport amid tight security.

They were greeted at the foot of the gangway by Sri Lanka's President U.R. Jayawardene and his wife Eleana.

A 7-year old girl presented the queen with a bouquet of orchid flowers while the prince was garlanded by 9-year old boy. The queen and the prince were accorded a 21-gun royal salute. The national anthems of the two countries were played and the queen inspected a smart guard-of-honour provided by the Sri Lanka Navy.

Prime Minister Ranasinghe Premadasa and his wife Hema and other cabinet ministers were presented to the royal visitors. The members of the diplomatic corps and the British community in Colombo were also among the large crowd at the airport to greet the royal couple.

After the colourful 35-minute airport reception, the royal visitors and their entourage drove in a motorcade along a 33 kilometre (21 mile) route lined with tens of thousands of people including hundreds of flag waving children to the 'Janadhipathi mandiraya' the official residence of the president.

The queen last visited Sri Lanka 27 years ago when she was still the sovereign of this island. This time she has come during a state of emergency.

Earlier today the country's Parliament approved the extension of a 2-month old state of emergency for a further period by 124 votes to 6.

Prime Minister Premadasa refuted allegations by opposition members that the emergency was being extended because of the queen's visit.

The emergency was declared on August 17 to deal with communal violence following tension between the majority Sinhalese community and the minority Tamils who want a separate state.

The prime minister said that while the country had been returning to normalcy, there had been some incidents of violence recently which had prompted the security authorities to advise the government to extend the emergency.

Last week two soldiers and a civilian were gunned down by a terrorist group in Jaffna District in the north.

Unprecedented security measures were in force at the airport today as the queen arrived. An Air Force commando unit was standing by, steel helmeted air forcemen with submachine guns were patrolling the tarmac and sharpshooters were posted on the rooftop of the terminal building.

Elsewhere in Colombo and the province 10,000 policemen, including police reserves, were deployed for the queen's security and to prevent violence.